

Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /089 W

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R 121358Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8349

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS LAGOS 02328

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, NI, PO

SUBJECT: NIGERIA AND PORTUGAL

1. PRESS AND WIRE SERVICES REPORT ARRIVAL AT LAGOS IKEJA AIRPORT MARCH 11 OF TAP CARGO PLANE DELIVERING CONSIGNMENT OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FROM LONDON TO NIGERIA. ALL ACCOUNTS NOTED THAT THIS WAS FIRST PORTUGUESE AIRCRAFT TO LAND IN NIGERIA SINCE COUNTRY BECAME INDEPENDENT IN 1960 AND BROKE RELATIONS WITH THEN-GOP OVER ITS COLONIAL POLICIES.

2. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL FMG STATEMENT, VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS HAVE QUOTED FMG OFFICIALS ON BACKGROUND BASIS TO EFFECT THAT LANDING PERMISSION SHOULD BE SEEN AS INDICATION OF FMG "CHANGE OF ATTITUDE" TO PORTUGAL IN WAKE OF CHANGES IN LATTERS AFRICAN POLICIES. "IMMIGRATION SOURCES" ALSO QUOTED TO EFFECT THAT PORTUGUESE NATIONALS NOW BEING GRANTED PERMISSION TO ENTER NIGERIA. PRESS SOURCES DECLINED TO COMMENT ON QUESTION OF FMG RENEWAL OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GOP.
CROSBY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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